



MAY 21 1996

Reply To
Attn Of: ECL-111

Greg Thomas
Senior Regional Representative
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry ECL-152
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

RE: Notice of Proposed Deletion of Bonneville Power
Administration/Ross Complex from the National Priorities
List

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am pleased to let you know that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is considering deletion of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)/Ross Complex Superfund site from the National Priorities List (NPL).

The BPA/Ross Complex consists of a 235-acre tract in Clark County on the eastern side of U.S. Highway 99. The site is an active facility that has been owned and operated by the BPA since 1939 to coordinate the distribution of hydroelectric power generated by the Federal Columbia River Power System to regions throughout the Pacific Northwest. Since its construction, the site has provided research and testing facilities, maintenance and construction operations, and waste storage and handling operations for BPA.

In November 1989 the EPA placed the BPA/Ross Complex on the NPL, making it a Superfund site subject to the requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The listing was based on the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Trichloroethane (TCA), Dichloroethene (DCE) in groundwater, PCBs in surface soils, and the Ross Complex's proximity to the City of Vancouver's drinking water supply. As a result of the listing, and pursuant to a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) signed by BPA, EPA and the Washington Department of Ecology on May 1, 1990, BPA conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Ross Complex and to evaluate alternatives for cleanup of contaminated areas.

AR 2.1



To facilitate the Superfund investigation process, the site was divided into two separate Operable Units (OUs), (OUA and OUB). The OUA investigation focused on surface soil contamination. Of the 21 waste units evaluated as part of the RI, only 3 areas required remedial action. A total of 2,544 tons of contaminated soil was excavated and disposed at an approved off-site landfill in Arlington, Oregon. PCB-contaminated concrete footings and debris were also removed and disposed offsite. Soils in the Wood Pole Storage Area East were treated by enhanced bioremediation and then covered by a cap of clean gravel.

The OUB RI focused on characterization of subsurface soils in two waste units and also included characterization of the shallow perched water table, the deep groundwater aquifer beneath the Ross Complex, and surface water and sediments in Cold Creek and Burnt Bridge Creek. Perched water tables and the deep aquifer beneath the Ross Complex were tested for a wide range of potential contaminants including VOC's, pesticides, herbicides, metals, base neutral acids, PCB's, phenols, phthalates and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's). Based on the findings of the RI, a multi-layered permanent cap was installed at the Fog Chamber Dump Trench Area 1. Remedial action was not required for groundwater, surface water or sediments. However, the Record of Decision requires institutional controls for subsurface soils as well as groundwater monitoring at several on-site wells to verify that groundwater conditions remain adequately protective.

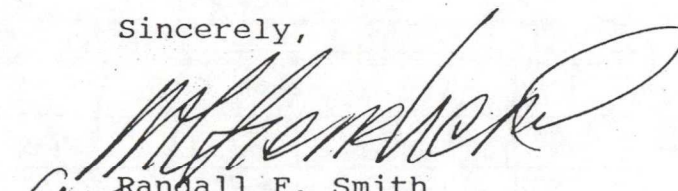
While EPA believes that the remedial actions taken at this site are protective of human health and the environment, we are asking for your input at this time. Please inform us of any outstanding health issues ATSDR has with this site. We are interested in discussing any remaining concerns you have prior to completing the delisting process.

Deletion of this site from the NPL will not prohibit the Federal government from taking remedial actions in the future at the BPA/Ross Complex pursuant to CERCLA if needed. Also, EPA understands that deletion from the NPL does not remove this site from the State's hazardous sites list.

Since we would like to get through this process as quickly as possible, a response to this request for concurrence within two weeks of receipt of this letter would be very much appreciated.

If you have any questions please call me at 206-553-1261 or Nancy Harney, of my staff at 206-553-6635.

Sincerely,


Randall F. Smith
Director
Environmental Cleanup Office

cc: Tony Morrell, BPA/Ross Complex

CONCURRENCE

INITIAL	MC	JH	CK	WZ	MA
NAME	SIBLEY	HARNEY	KRUEGER	GEARHEARD	SMITH
DATE	5/14/96	5/16/96	5/14/96	5/21/96	5/24/96